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7	Attorneys for Debtors and Reorganized Debtors		
8	Thiorneys for Deviors and Reorganized Deviors		
9	UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT		
10	NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION		
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12		Bankruptcy Case No. 19-30088 (DM)	
13	In re:	Chapter 11	
14	PG&E CORPORATION,	(Lead Case) (Jointly Administered)	
15	- and -	REORGANIZED DEBTORS' ONE	
16	PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY,	HUNDRED NINETEENTH OMNIBUS OBJECTION TO CLAIMS (NO LIABILITY	
17	Debtors.	CLAIMS)	
18	☐ Affects PG&E Corporation	Response Deadline: December 6, 2022, 4:00 p.m. (PT)	
19	☐ Affects Pacific Gas and Electric Company  ☑ Affects both Debtors	Hearing Information If Timely Response Made:	
20	* All papers shall be filed in the Lead Case, No.	Date: December 20, 2022	
	19-30088 (DM).	Time: 10:00 a.m. (Pacific Time) Place: (Tele/Videoconference Appearances Only)	
21		United States Bankruptcy Court Courtroom 17, 16th Floor	
22		San Francisco, CA 94102	
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Filed: 11/10/22 Entered: 11/10/22 11:34:05 Page 1 of 6 Case: 19-30088 Doc# 13238

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se: 19-30088 Doc# 13238 Filed: 11/10/22 Entered: 11/10/22 11:34:05

# TO: (A) THE HONORABLE DENNIS MONTALI, UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE; (B) THE OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRUSTEE; (C) THE AFFECTED CLAIMANTS; AND (D) OTHER PARTIES ENTITLED TO NOTICE:

PG&E Corporation ("PG&E Corp.") and Pacific Gas and Electric Company (the "Utility"), as debtors and reorganized debtors (collectively, the "Debtors," or as reorganized pursuant to the Plan (as defined below), the "Reorganized Debtors") in the above-captioned Chapter 11 cases (the "Chapter 11 Cases"), hereby submit this One Hundred Nineteenth Omnibus Objection (the "Objection") to the claims identified in the columns headed "Claims To Be Disallowed and Expunged" on Exhibit 1.

## I. JURISDICTION

This Court has jurisdiction over this Objection under 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334; the *Order Referring Bankruptcy Cases and Proceedings to Bankruptcy Judges*, General Order 24 (N.D. Cal.); and Rule 5011-1(a) of the Bankruptcy Local Rules for the United States District Court for the Northern District of California (the "Bankruptcy Local Rules"). This matter is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b). Venue is proper before this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409. The statutory predicates for the relief requested are section 502 of Title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code") and Rule 3007 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules").

## II. BACKGROUND

On January 29, 2019 (the "**Petition Date**"), the Debtors commenced with the Court voluntary cases under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. Prior to the Effective Date (as defined below), the Debtors continued to operate their businesses and manage their properties as debtors in possession pursuant to sections 1107(a) and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code. No trustee or examiner was appointed in either of the Chapter 11 Cases. The Chapter 11 Cases are being jointly administered for procedural purposes only pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 1015(b).

On July 1, 2019, the Court entered the *Order Pursuant to 11 U.S.C.* §§ 502(b)(9) and 105(a), Fed. R. Bankr. P. 2002, 3003(c)(3), 5005, and 9007, and L.B.R. 3003-1 (I) Establishing Deadline for Filing Proofs of Claim, (II) Establishing the Form and Manner of Notice Thereof, and (III) Approving Procedures for Providing Notice of Bar Date and Other Information to All Creditors and Potential Creditors [Docket No. 2806] (the "Bar Date Order"). The Bar Date Order set the deadline to file all

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proofs of claim (each, a "Proof of Claim") in respect of any prepetition claim (as defined in section 101(5) of the Bankruptcy Code), including all claims of Fire Claimants (as defined therein), Wildfire Subrogation Claimants (as defined therein), Governmental Units (as defined in section 101(27) of the Bankruptcy Code), and Customers, and for the avoidance of doubt, including all secured claims and priority claims, against either of the Debtors as October 21, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time (the "Bar **Date**"). The Bar Date later was extended with respect to unfiled, non-governmental Fire Claimants to December 31, 2019 [Docket No. 4672].<sup>1</sup>

By Order dated June 20, 2020 [Dkt. No. 8053], the Bankruptcy Court confirmed the Debtors' and Shareholder Proponents' Joint Chapter 11 Plan of Reorganization Dated June 19, 2020 (as may be further modified, amended or supplemented from time to time, and together with any exhibits or scheduled thereto, the "Plan"). The Effective Date of the Plan occurred on July 1, 2020 (the "Effective Date"). See Dkt. No. 8252.

#### III. RELIEF REQUESTED

The Reorganized Debtors file this Objection pursuant to section 502 of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Local Rule 3007-1, and the Order Approving (A) Procedures for Filing Omnibus Objections to Claims and (B) the Form and Manner of the Notice of Omnibus Objections, dated June 30, 2020 [Docket No. 8228] (the "Omnibus Objections Procedures Order") seeking entry of an order disallowing and expunging the No Liability Claims, as further defined and described below.

#### IV. **ARGUMENT**

The Omnibus Objections Procedures Order and Bankruptcy Rule 3007(d) permit the Reorganized Debtors to file objections to more than one Proof of Claim if, among other reasons, "[t]he claims seek recovery of amounts for which the Debtors are not liable." Omnibus Objections Procedures Order,  $\P2(C)(iii)$ .

Each of the Claimants on Exhibit 1 is listed alphabetically, and the claim number and amount are identified in accordance with Bankruptcy Rule 3007(e). Furthermore, in accordance with the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The claims of Fire Claimants will be administered through the Fire Victim Trust and the claims of Wildfire Subrogation Claimants through the Subrogation Wildfire Trust in accordance with the Plan.

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Omnibus Objections Procedures Order, the Reorganized Debtors have sent individualized notices to the holders of the No Liability Claims.

## A. The No Liability Claims Should be Disallowed and Expunged

The Reorganized Debtors seek entry of an order disallowing and expunging certain Proofs of Claim for which the Reorganized Debtors are not liable (the "No Liability Claims"). The No Liability Claims are identified in **Exhibit 1** hereto, in the column entitled "Claims To Be Disallowed and Expunged." These Proofs of Claim provide insufficient supporting documentation to enable the Reorganized Debtors to understand the purported basis for liability and, after reviewing the allegations, the Reorganized Debtors are unable to determine any liability or basis for the asserted Claims.<sup>2</sup> The Reorganized Debtors issued Information Requests as to the Proofs of Claim, pursuant to the *Order Approving ADR and Related Procedures for Resolving General Claims* [Docket No. 9148], and received responses from the Claimants that did not meaningfully explain their allegations.

## B. The Claimants Bear the Burden of Proof

A proof of claim is "deemed allowed, unless a party in interest . . . objects." 11 U.S.C. § 502(a).<sup>3</sup> Section 502(b)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code, however, provides in relevant part that a claim may not be allowed if "such claim is unenforceable against the debtor and property of the debtor, under any agreement or applicable law." 11 U.S.C. § 502(b)(1). Once the objector raises "facts tending to defeat the claim by probative force equal to that of the allegations of the proofs of claim themselves," *Wright v. Holm (In re Holm)*, 931 F.2d 620, 623 (9th Cir. 1991), quoting 3 L. King, *Collier on Bankruptcy* § 502.02 at 502-22 (15th ed. 1991), then "the burden reverts to the claimant to prove the validity of the claim by a preponderance of the evidence." *Ashford v. Consolidated Pioneer Mortgage* (*In re Consolidated Pioneer Mortgage*), 178 B.R. 222, 226 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 1995) (quoting *In re Allegheny* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> One of the No Liability Claims, Claim No. 7955, does include reasonably specific allegations regarding a portion of the damages claimed. However, as the claimant has acknowledged, he received and cashed a settlement check from the Reorganized Debtors for that portion of the claim.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> On October 25, 2022, the Reorganized Debtors moved for an order further extending the deadline under Section 7.1 of the Plan to bring objections to Claims through and including September 15, 2023 [Docket No. 13122], except with respect to the claims of certain state and federal governmental entities not applicable to this Objection. That motion is set for hearing on November 15, 2022.

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Int'l, Inc., 954 F.2d 167, 173-74 (3d Cir. 1992)), aff'd without opinion 91 F.3d 151 (9th Cir. 1996). "[T]he ultimate burden of persuasion is always on the claimant." Holm, 931 F.2d at 623 (quoting King, Collier on Bankruptcy); see also Lundell v. Anchor Constr. Specialists, Inc., 223 F.3d 1035, 1039 (9th Cir. 2000); Spencer v. Pugh (In re Pugh), 157 B.R. 898, 901 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 1993); In re Fidelity Holding Co., 837 F.2d 696, 698 (5th Cir. 1988).

As discussed above, the Reorganized Debtors submit that the No Liability Claims should be disallowed and expunged because the Reorganized Debtors are not liable for the amounts requested therein. If not disallowed and expunged, No Liability Claims potentially could allow the applicable Claimants to receive recoveries to which they are not entitled.

## V. RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

The Reorganized Debtors hereby reserve the right to object, as applicable, in the future to any of the Proofs of Claim listed in this Objection on any ground, and to amend, modify, or supplement this Objection to the extent an objection to a claim is not granted, and to file other objections to any proofs of claims filed in these cases, including, without limitation, objections as to the amounts asserted therein, or any other claims (filed or not) against the Debtors, regardless of whether such claims are subject to this Objection. A separate notice and hearing will be scheduled for any such objections. Should the grounds of objection specified herein be overruled, wholly or in part, the Reorganized Debtors reserve the right to object to the No Liability Claims on any other grounds that the Reorganized Debtors may discover or deem appropriate.

## VI. NOTICE

Notice of this Objection will be provided to (i) holders of the No Liability Claims; (ii) the Office of the U.S. Trustee for Region 17 (Attn: Andrew R. Vara, Esq. and Timothy Laffredi, Esq.); (iii) all counsel and parties receiving electronic notice through the Court's electronic case filing system; and (iv) those persons who have formally appeared in these Chapter 11 Cases and requested service pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2002. The Reorganized Debtors respectfully submit that no further notice is required. No previous request for the relief sought herein has been made by the Reorganized Debtors to this or any other Court.

Case: 19-30088 Doc# 13238 Filed: 11/10/22 Entered: 11/10/22 11:34:05 Page 5

of 6

1	WHEREFORE the Debtors respectfully request entry of an order granting the relief requested		
2	herein and such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and appropriate.		
3	Dated: November 10, 2022	KELLER BENVENUTTI KIM LLP	
4		By: <u>/s/ Dara L. Silveira</u> Dara L. Silveira	
5		Attorneys for Debtors and Reorganized Debtors	
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Case: 19-30088 Doc# 13238 Filed: 11/10/22 Entered: 11/10/22 11:34:05 Page 6 of 6

28